

November 24, 2009

WASHINGTON, DC - Today, U.S. Rep. Michael Arcuri (NY-24) joined, Nick Matt, owner of the F.X. Matt Brewery in Utica, Utica Mayor David Roefaro and other representatives from Oneida County and the City of Utica to announce that the City of Utica will receive an additional \$587,400 in Recovery Bill funding to lower yearly energy costs and create economic development opportunities by making energy efficient upgrades at the Utica Memorial Auditorium, Wankel Field, upgrading city street lights and installing energy efficient lighting at the F.X. Matt Brewery.

"These Recovery Bill funds will lower energy costs for the City of Utica and create new economic development opportunities by assisting local businesses in cutting costs," **Arcuri said**. "I am pleased to see the city of Utica and local businesses involved in the move towards more energy efficient operation. This is another example of the Recovery Bill delivering results in our community and lowering the cost of energy for local residents."

The funding is part of an Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) from the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and will be used to install energy efficient lights on Utica streets, and at Wankel Field, a new energy efficient chiller at the Utica Memorial Auditorium that hosts entertainment and sporting events on ice and for the F.X Matt Brewery to install new, energy efficient lighting in the bottling facility, brew house, fermenting cellar, warehouse and tour route. The brewery has been trying to institute this lighting change for several years now and with this Recovery Bill funding, they will be able to make this project a reality. All of these projects will utilize local contractors to provide jobs in the community. The breakdown for the distribution of this Recovery Bill grant is below:

1. Pedestrian lighting upgrades with 60 watt energy efficient lights;
2. Wankel Field lighting upgrade to allow for more energy efficient lighting to be used at the field, which hosts evening and night events for local schools and community organizations;
3. Utica Memorial Auditorium (The AUD) chiller replacement;
4. Installation of new, energy efficient lighting in the F.X. Matt Brewery

Under the DOE's EECBG Program, funds are awarded to help communities improve their

energy efficiency, reduce their energy use and fossil fuel emissions, and create green jobs locally. The EECBG Program was funded for the first time by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. Funding for the EECBG Program under the Recovery Act totals \$3.2 billion, of which approximately \$2.7 billion will be awarded through formula grants to more than 2,300 cities, counties, states nationwide.

Central New York has already seen jobs created as a result of federal Recovery Bill funds to weatherize homes of low-income families. Oneida County has received \$4.4 million for weatherization projects including funding for job training.

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